



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 10, 2016

S. 921 **Delaware River Basin Conservation Act of 2015**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on May 18, 2016*

SUMMARY

S. 921 would authorize the appropriation of \$5 million a year through 2021 for a program to restore the Delaware River Basin. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$24 million over the 2017-2021 period and \$1 million after 2021. Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply. CBO estimates that enacting S. 921 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

S. 921 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 921 is shown in the following table. The cost of this legislation falls within budget function 300 (natural **resources and environment**).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2017- 2021
INCREASES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Authorization Level	5	5	5	5	5	25
Estimated Outlays	4	5	5	5	5	24

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 921 will be enacted early in 2017 and that the authorized amounts will be appropriated for each fiscal year. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for similar activities.

S. 921 would authorize the appropriation of \$5 million a year through 2021 for the Delaware River Basin Restoration Program. Under the program, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service would coordinate restoration activities and provide grants to entities involved in restoring the basin. The bill also would require the agency to submit annual reports to the Congress describing activities conducted under the program. CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would cost \$24 million over the 2017-2021 period and \$1 million after 2021.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 921 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would benefit state and local governments, as well as public institutions of higher education, by authorizing grants and technical assistance to support restoration activities in the Delaware River Basin. Any costs incurred by those entities, including matching contributions, would result from participating in a voluntary federal program.

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